



Installation of Rabbi Jane Rachel Litman (center), with Rabbis Margaret Holub (left) and Richard Levy (right). Photo by Michael Bettinger.

## Rabbi's Column

### Shabbat: An Oasis in Time

Rabbi Eric Yoffie, President of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, has called a new commitment to making talmud torah (Jewish learning) central in Reform congregations. To this end, he has suggested that this year Jews read several important books about various aspects of Jewish thought and practice. The first of these suggested books is Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel's *The Sabbath*.



Rabbi Jane Litman

In this book, Heschel explains that Shabbat serves Jews as a sacred haven in time rather than as a holy space. Heschel's understanding of Shabbat is particularly helpful for us, a congregation temporarily without our own space. According to Heschel, we do not need a building in order to maintain our spiritual sensibility. Shabbat is a set of behaviors, not a location. Heschel suggests that the entire week is a Jewish journey, a pilgrimage to Shabbat.

What does that mean? We modern Jews

have lost touch with the spiritual taste of Shabbat. When asked, we tend to say, "oh yeah—Shabbat—that's when Jews aren't supposed to work." We think of it like the weekend, but shorter. This leads to a certain amount of confusion. People often say to me, "Isn't it ironic that you, the rabbi, work on Shabbat?"

This misunderstanding of Shabbat stems from a misconception about Jewish religious thought. In America, we tend to identify "work" with economics. Work is what people do for money. That is all that counts. Hence the movement for "wages for housework" or the political drive to count housework and volunteerism in the GNP in order to make housekeepers and volunteers visible and raise the status of women, who, in mainstream society, still do the overwhelming share of these two activities.

The nature of what is traditionally prohibited on Shabbat is an instance in which the English word "work" doesn't clearly reflect the Jewish sense of the Hebrew word which is being translated. "Work" in the wage earning sense is fairly accurately translated by the Hebrew word

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## CSZ Interim Space Information

**Contacting us:** Our telephone, fax and e-mail remain the same.

**Telephone:** (415) 861-6932

**Fax:** (415) 861-6081

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**Website:** [www.shaarzahav.org](http://www.shaarzahav.org)

**Writing us:** Please send all roster updates, newsletter submissions, dues payments, donations and other materials to our new home. *Use this address for writing to us only.*

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav  
290 Dolores Street  
San Francisco, CA 94103

**Visiting us:** Rabbi Litman and our office staff are sharing space with the staff of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, 3281 16th St., catty-corner from our new building. Our drop-in hours are limited. Please call us before dropping by.

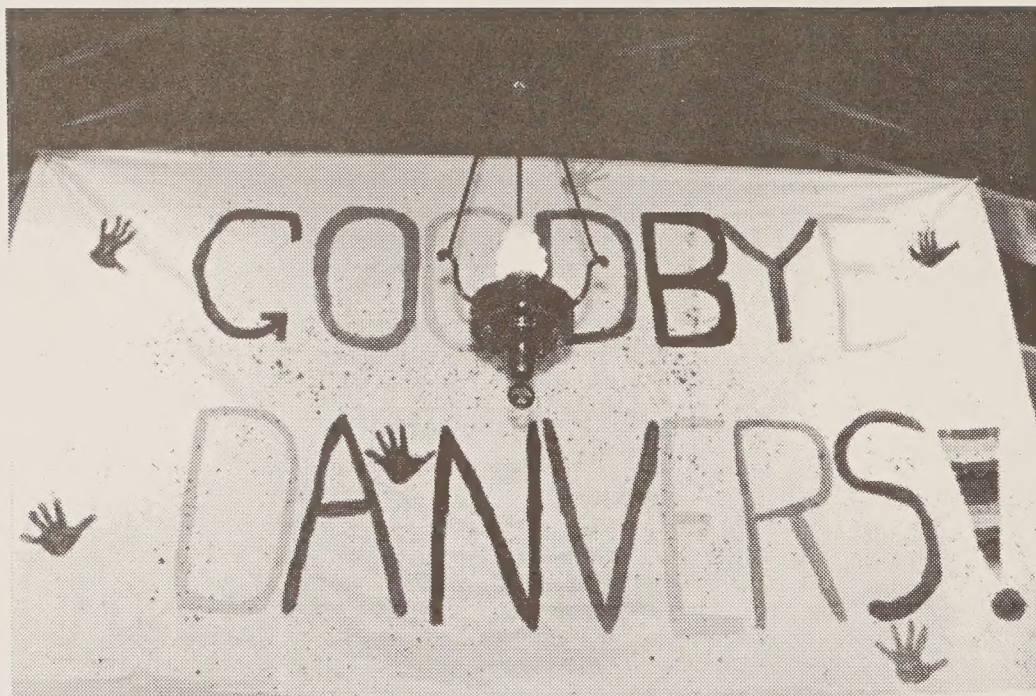
**Worship services:** All Shabbat services, except our monthly East Bay service, will be held at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church. Healing services are now at Congregation Sherith Israel, 2266 California St.

**Meetings:** Va'ad meetings remain open to all members, and will be at 345 Church St. (Church Street Gardens). For the location of committee meetings, contact the chair of the committee.

## Baby Chavurah

Children two and under and their parents are invited to join us for the next Baby Chavurah event. It will be a brunch at the home of Lisa Katz, Sharon Heath and Miriam Zoe Heath Katz, on Sunday, January 11, at 11 am. The family lives at 38 Park Street in San Francisco. Call 821-7746 for directions.





Goodbye to Danvers Shabbat. Photo by Michael Bettinger.

## Hello, Goodbye

—Sarah R. Comerchero

[Sarah originally intended to say a few words at the November 21 "final Danvers" service; she decided, however, that for her, the pen was better than the stage. Sarah served as CSZ co-leader in 1978.]

I always got a kick out of the Beatles' song "Hello, Goodbye." It's catchy and ambiguous, allowing for several interpretations. "You say yes, I say no, you say stop, I say go." Is this an update on "you say tomato and I say tomato"? I don't think so. Yes and no are different. But a tomato is still a tomato.

Perhaps it's about obstinacy (read control). If I say this, you'll say that. But if you say that, I'll do this.

It could be about the ambivalence that colors so much of our lives and relationships.

Or it could simply be two people acknowledging their differences and essentially deciding to live with them.

Since its beginning I've had a "yes/no" relationship with CSZ. In its embryonic stage there were numerous problems: conflicting visions of what we wanted this synagogue to be, varying levels of religious practice and political activism, and a peculiar mix of disparate characters. The Va'ad member who, even on public occasions, refused to snap the top of his jeans; the two Va'ad members who would spend most of the service outside smoking cigarettes and drinking California

Cabernets; the former Va'ad member-radical-lesbian-feminist-therapist who now lives in Chicago, orthodox, heterosexual, and married; and, in later years, the number of us who found our way into twelve step programs—we had them all covered—and now swap anecdotal information about our respective "addictions." And always we tried to make sense of this adventure into virtually unknown territory. We wanted to succeed and worked hard to make it happen—even when we seemed more like "the gang that couldn't shoot straight" than an executive board—singular even by SF standards. Still, we persisted.

And then, as many of you know, came the split. Women in leadership positions resigned. Others left disillusioned. It was not our shining moment—either for us personally or for the community to which we had felt so committed.

So for years I stayed away, feeling alienated from the child I had helped nurture in its infancy. And that's how things could have remained.

Except.

New people started to become involved, infusing life and energy into the floundering homeless group. If we were the "visionaries," they were the "administrators," able to consolidate the idea, the dream, and their organizational talent to create what eventually became

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## Saying Goodbye with Style

Leaving our Danvers Street home was not easy for many of us. Even though we anticipated it for nearly a year and know our future holds great promise, saying goodbye was hard. In traditional CSZ style, we marked our leaving with proper celebration. On Simchat Torah we marched with our Torahs from our Danvers Street home to our new building on Dolores Street. Folks in the Castro stopped to watch as 100 Sha'ar Zahavniks sang Hebrew songs, danced in the street and waved Simchat Torah Flags. Our great joy and pride in being out gay Jews permeated through the streets. The march ended at 290 Dolores where we had the first party in our new building. Amidst rubble from the ongoing demolition, we toasted our new home and enjoyed Klezmer music played by *Gay iz Mir*.

The celebration of our journey to a new home continued on November 21 at an unforgettable Shabbat service and party. The sanctuary was overflowing with CSZ members and friends who came to bid our beloved Danvers Street home farewell. The service was filled with special moments to commemorate our history. Members of the congregation who had been part of the effort to buy the Danvers Street building were invited to the bima to lead candle-lighting, and all who celebrated a lifecycle *simcha*—commitment ceremony, conversion, B'nai Mitzvah, etc.—in that sanctuary opened the Ark during the Aleinu. The beautiful service was followed by a festive party with special oneg treats, music and dancing.

Both evenings were successful in large part because of CSZ member Julie LaPore's hard work and the assistance of the Mission Police Department. A *todah raba* to them and the other helpful volunteers who helped us leave Danvers Street in style.

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

## Anniversaries

- |    |                                      |
|----|--------------------------------------|
| 1  | Leslie Katz and Susan Bluer          |
| 1  | Sharon Tanenbaum and Matrisha Person |
| 5  | Ellen Elias and Robyn Bramhall       |
| 15 | Barbara Becker and Ellen Press       |
| 16 | Ida Kuluk and Susan Spott            |
| 23 | Stephen Hauptman and Trudi Hauptman  |



## Installation Thoughts

As I write this column, we have just completed our weekend of events celebrating Rabbi Litman's installation. Both the service and the party were done in classic Sha'ar Zahav style, and in all ways reflected both Rabbi Litman and our community. I enjoyed pondering the question, brought up by Rabbi Levy, "How, exactly, does one install a rabbi?"



*Diana Buchbinder*

The events were worth the wait. The planning committee, Allan Berenstein, Alan Ferrara, Jeff Forman, Joe Hample, Trudi Hauptman, Stephan Howard, Jeff Rubin, Sharyn Saslafsky and Deborah Udin, did a wonderful job planning and organizing, with the help of Renée Bauer, Lea Salem and Amy Clark in the office, and I thank them for their time and energy. I also thank Jeanette Nichols for contributing her original artwork, both

on the front of the invitation and as a framed original to be hung in the rabbi's study. No matter what we need (or wish) to have done, there are always members of this congregation ready to help.

The installation service also marked our first service between buildings. Even though I know that we no longer own Danvers Street, and that we will not hold services there again, I say "between buildings" because, while sitting in the Unitarian Center, I began thinking about how we have jokingly been calling ourselves "homeless" and "wandering Jews" the last few months. Hearing Pastor Marsh say that Sha'ar Zahav was an important part of the Unitarian Center family, and having Pastor Bombosch of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church present with us that evening, made it clear that we really have many homes.

Being between homes, while we wait for our new sanctuary to be completed, is not the same as being without a home. During the upcoming months of construction on Dolores Street, St. Matthew's

is welcoming us, giving up parts of their space to us and befriending us. We do not share their religious traditions, nor they ours, but it does not matter. We have a home at St. Matthew's as a stopping place on the way to our new sanctuary and we need not wander. Unlike those who truly have lost their homes, we are blessed to be living at St. Matthew's. In this New Year, I encourage all of you to attend a service at St. Matthew's and enjoy this temporary home of ours. It is a beautiful place, and it will provide us with a great view of nearby construction.

## Ushering in Shevat

The month of Shevat begins with the new moon on January 28. Tu B'Shevat, the Jewish birthday of the trees which marks the end of winter and the beginning of spring, falls during the month of Shevat. It was on Rosh Chodesh Shevat during our people's wandering in the desert, in the 40th year, that Moses began to teach and review Torah with the people. The tree, the symbol of the Torah, is the primary image associated with Shevat. CSZ's Rosh Chodesh group will celebrate the new month at a Shabbat lunch on January 31. An activity that will use the symbolism of Shevat will be part of our afternoon together. All women are invited to attend. Please call Renée in the synagogue office for more information, to RSVP or to help plan this event.

### Do you have e-mail?

Drop us a line at  
[shaarzahav@igc.apc.org](mailto:shaarzahav@igc.apc.org)

### Are you on the Net?

Visit our web site at  
[www.shaarzahav.org](http://www.shaarzahav.org)



*Rabbi Search Committee, Installation of Rabbi Jane Rachel Litman. Photo by Michael Bettinger.*



# God the Toddler

[Marilyn O'Keeffe delivered this sermon to the congregation last October.]

Several months ago, my three-year-old son Daniel came up with the question, "Mummy, what does God actually do?" It's a great question, and one to which I could not immediately produce a satisfactory answer. So I gave him a number of theories which have since become a basis for an ongoing dialogue between us. I was reminded of Daniel's question as I read through tonight's Torah portion. It's one in which God is particularly busy, and which describes God's activities in some detail. But as I read through Bereshit with Daniel in mind, I became more and more troubled by God's behavior as the portion progresses. There is a distressing trend here which is repeated rather frequently throughout the Torah, and which cries out for explanation in the context of what actually God does in the world today.

In the beginning, we see God the creator, enthusiastic, bold, magnanimous, separating the light from the darkness, dividing the waters—majestic and awe-inspiring stuff. We see also a God whose relationship with humanity is intensely personal and intimate. God walks in the garden in the cool of the evening. God converses with Adam (though interestingly enough not with Eve, and we all know where that little oversight led), and even after Adam and Eve have disobeyed God's command and eaten the fruit of the tree of knowledge, it is God, not the first human, who makes clothes to cover them—an extraordinarily tender and loving image.

So what are we to make, as the narrative progresses, of God's increasingly erratic behavior, of the apparently arbitrary rejection of Cain's sacrifice and ultimately of the shocking decision in the closing verses when God plans the destruction of the whole of creation because of God's disappointment with humanity...the whole of creation! I had to ask myself at this point, "Is this the model of conflict resolution that I want to hold up to my child? Is this the standard by which I want him to measure his own behavior?" I think not. Rather the opposite holds true. I expend an enormous amount of time and energy extolling the virtues of cooperation, negotiation and dialogue. In short, the message I am trying to put across is that

it is not acceptable to express one's disappointment by kicking over the blocks, taking one's toys and storming off home to sulk. So what do I do? How do I explain this aspect of God's behavior to my child?

Of course, as soon as I ask the question, I realize that to a three year old, God's behavior needs no explanation. Cataclysmic vengeance being the three year old's response of choice, it is rather my reaction to God's behavior which Daniel finds puzzling. This realization opened my eyes to another intriguing interpretation. Can it be that in this Torah portion we are witnessing not only the universe in its infancy, but God the Toddler? Inexperience and immaturity are the only explanations I can think of for such irrational and disproportionate behavior in a being whose essence is unchanging wisdom, compassion and generosity.

That being the case, it is only reasonable to expect that God has grown up some in the eons that have passed, and that we can enjoy a subtler and more sophisticated relationship with God in the present. I believe, in fact, that we must insist upon an equally intimate but more mature relationship than that experienced by the first humans. We must remind God that the covenant is a joint venture and as such demand God's active participation not as punitive parent nor as dictatorial child, but as responsible partner and mentor. We must ensure that God acts in concert with us to alleviate the plight of the homeless, to encourage the preservation of the planet, to make peace between the nations and to provide for those who come after us. I believe that what God actually does is to listen to our invitation to participate in the task of tikkun olam. I do not believe that God acts alone, but that only when each of us reaches into the depths of our souls and leads that spark of Divinity into the forefront of our everyday lives—only when we activate the Shekhinah in this way—then God engages with us to complete the work of creation. Then God accompanies us in the everyday of our lives; God speaks to us in the voices of our children; God reaches out to touch us with the hands of our lovers; God heals us with the skill and knowledge of our medical practitioners; God provides for us in the tzedakah of our communi-

ties; God walks with us in gardens in the cool of the evening.

This is the answer I will give to my son in the hope that he will be inspired to issue his own invitation to God. For I fear that if we, and those who come after us, fail to insist upon God's presence in the world, God may die of boredom and God's creation of abuse and neglect.

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## Members of the Newsletter Committee

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**Classified Ads** are \$5 for up to 20 words, plus \$1 for each 10 additional words. No personals accepted.

Payment must accompany ad and should be sent to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 290 Dolores St., San Francisco, California 94103, marked: attention *Forward* advertising. We reserve the right to reject any ad for reasons of taste.

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## Kadimah: Saturday or Sunday?

—Ruth Rainero

Kadimah, our children's education program, has met on Shabbat since being formed ten years ago. Some parents and children prefer to continue having classes on Shabbat, while others would prefer to meet on Sunday. With the continued growth of Kadimah (now 40 students!) and our move to Dolores Street next year, the Children's Education Board (CEB) believes this long-existing and sensitive issue needs to be re-addressed, as it will affect families for years to come. The ultimate decision will be made by the Va'ad, which wants input from the rabbi, staff, committees (including Ritual, Building and Finance) and the congregation at large.

Three forums have been planned to which all members are invited to come and air their views.

- Tuesday, January 13, 7 pm, at the home of Ron Lezell, 61 Eagle St., San Francisco (around the corner from the Danvers Street building); 626-5748.

- Thursday, January 22, 7 pm, at the home of Howard Herman and Claudia Bernard, 644 Fairmount Ave., Oakland; call 510/658-0123 for directions.

- Saturday, January 24, 10 am, at Congregation Emanu-El during the Kadimah parent meeting.

If you are unable to attend, please contribute your comments in writing. Snail mail: CSZ, 290 Dolores St., San Francisco, CA 94103, att: Kadimah Sat. vs. Sun. E-mail: shaarzahav@igc.org; subject: Kadimah Sat. vs. Sun.

The following reasons (in no particular order) have been voiced for preferring Saturday or Sunday:

### Sunday

- Enables Kadimah students to attend friends' b'nai mitzvot without missing class.

- Other religious schools are held on Sunday; attending Kadimah on Saturday may restrict social contact with Jewish friends.

- Most children's sports programs are held on Saturday, often during class hours.

- Honors Shabbat traditions of refraining from driving, writing and doing other work.

### Saturday

- Provides children and parents with

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## Director of Education

### Welcome David Shneer

David Shneer, our new Director of Education, has been working in Jewish education for more than five years as a teacher and curriculum designer. He has also taught for two years at U.C. Berkeley. Currently, he is a doctoral candidate in Berkeley's history department, writing a dissertation on the creation of a secular Jewish identity in the Soviet Union.

David is particularly interested in the history of radical Jewish culture, Yiddish language and literature, and Jewish identities, and he hopes to bring some of these interests to the synagogue. David learned Yiddish, Hebrew and Russian at Berkeley and has found all of them useful in Bay Area Jewish settings.

David got married last year to Gregg Drinkwater, and they look forward to becoming a part of the CSZ family.

## Toddler/Preschooler News

Our bi-annual toddler program planning meeting will take place on Thursday, January 15, at 6:30 pm, at the home of Ron Lezell, 61 Eagle Street. We will plan our calendar for the next six months, and brainstorm ways to enhance our current program and continue with curriculum development. All parents and other interested congregants are welcome to attend.

January Tot Shabbat will take place on Friday, January 23, 6:45 pm at St. Mathew's Lutheran Church. The service will be led by Patricia Lin and Rabbi Litman, and will be followed by an oneg. The theme for this month will be tzedakah. Come make a tzedakah box and learn a little bit about tikkun olam!

## Israel Tourism Website

Planning a trip to Israel? Hoping to go on the CSZ 1999 Israel trip? Consider bookmarking the following web address: <http://www.goisrael.com>. The site was created by Israel's Ministry of Tourism in response to the increase in travel to Israel for the state's 50th anniversary and for the millenium. It provides detailed information for religious-tour organizers and individual tourists, as well as travel agents, and is written specifically for North Americans.

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## Maxine Shear z"l

—Claudia Bernard

**M**y mother, Maxine Shear, was a woman of complexity, richness and depth. She came with us to High Holiday services for many years, in love with Jonathan Funk's and Susan Unger's Kol Nidre services (so what an honor that Susan was chazan at her funeral), convinced that ours were the only services that could move her, and equally convinced that a synagogue was no place for her. Thus it was a surprise to her when, at the end of her life, she decided to join our congregation. She was very happy that she had done so. She was thrilled with the loving pastoral care of our rabbi, and comforted by the plans for a Jewish funeral.

My mother had essentially four lives. The first we referred to as her "regular life," in which she more or less fulfilled the expectations of her hardworking immigrant parents by going to college, marrying a Jewish dentist, getting graduate degrees in education and social work and raising two daughters. That said, even the "regular" of my mother's first life was a little left of expectations: she was profoundly alienated from the provincialism of her parents (she used to say she was glad they were Jewish, otherwise she knew they would be anti-Semitic); she was attracted to my father because of his New York radical roots and she was deeply committed to radical politics.

Her first life, both its traditional and nontraditional aspects (we ate yogurt before most people in Los Angeles had ever heard of it, much to the embarrassment of my sister), ended abruptly when, after 23 years of marriage, my father left. While at the time this seemed a great tragedy, it turned out to be the best thing that ever happened to her. Shedding both the security and the constraints of her

married life, she found homes in the L.A. feminist and Buddhist meditation communities, and joy in her practice as a psychotherapist.

Seeking to deepen the peace and insight she attained through meditation, and ready for change, 15 years into her second life she began her third. She sold her house, gave away all of her possessions, and went to live and cook at a meditation retreat in rural Massachusetts. From there she traveled the world, attending the International Women's Conference in Kenya, working for Peace Now in Israel with her dear friend Lil (Julie Moed's mother), hiking in Nepal, touring India with fellow meditators and returning periodically to the tranquility of her meditation retreat.

She started to write wonderful stories and memoirs. She and her friend Esther went to live in Mexico for six months so my mother could write and Esther could paint. When I called her there to tell her I had gotten involved with Howard, she said, "Well, we seem to be moving in opposite directions!" She and Esther had become lovers. They returned to Esther's beautiful Greenwich Village apartment where my mother took full advantage of her senior citizen discount to attend every intellectual and cultural event the city had to offer. Ultimately the lover relationship turned into a close and committed friendship.

So my mother was ready when I gave her the news that would begin her fourth life: that I was pregnant with her grandchild. She had always said she would help take care of a baby should I ever have one. I was never quite sure she really meant it until two weeks before Benjamin's birth when she moved to the East Bay, bought a car and found an apartment within walking distance of

our house. And take care of him she did. Until he went to preschool, she cared for him every day while we were at work. She wrote stories about him; he made up songs for her; she wrote down his babbling and called it poetry. She instilled in him a social conscience: they helped the librarians put away books and chairs after story time, and they picked up litter as they walked along the street. They taught each other the wonder of unconditional love.

His first smile was for her, on her 66th birthday. He performed operas and dances for her at her sickbed, and made her endless drawings and paintings of dinosaurs. We buried her with one of them.

She died at our home, in the living room we converted into a bedroom for her, letting us all be a family as she exited this world. Her radiance still fills the house. And her love and passion and quirkiness live on in Benjamin, her living legacy.

## La'atid is Rollin'

**J**oin La'atid for a wild winter night of roller disco on Wednesday, January 14, at Queerskate! Meet us at the rink at 8 pm or call Renée in the office to arrange a carpool. Carpoolers will meet at 7:30 pm at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church.

Queerskate is at the Rolladium in San Mateo. When you arrive, let them know at the gate that you are with La'atid and your ticket to roll is just \$4, including skate rental. (You can also bring your own skates or blades.)

From San Francisco, take Highway 101 South and exit at Poplar Avenue. Make an immediate left onto North Amphlett. Rolladium is next to the DMV on the right-hand side.

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## Charles Norton z"l

A quiet man died last November; he was a member of the congregation for most of the past two decades whom most folks did not know. Chuck's death at 62 came after a year of many health problems. He had said goodbye to family and friends during each medical crisis. Rabbi Litman visited Chuck in the hospital her first day on the job as our rabbi.

During the 80s, Chuck often welcomed into his home on 18th Street those members who needed a place for Shabbat dinner, a seat at the Passover table, or a place to stay when times were difficult. For over ten years he was a member of the *Gaily Forward's* monthly staff and gossip club. Born in Montana, educated in Marin and an employee of the Southern Pacific Railway for 30 years, he loved San Francisco and found a home in the Jewish community.

Chuck left CSZ in 1982 to join Ahavat Shalom, but he continued to honor his building pledge for the Danvers Street property each month, and his name is inscribed on the plaque honoring those contributors. After he rejoined CSZ, he could be seen every Friday evening sitting with a group of friends toward the right rear of the sanctuary, in what they jokingly called the men's section.

Chuck received the honor of opening the ark each year during the High Holidays. Occasionally he asked to read a passage in English. When the cost of the portable ark, designed by one of his friends, was greater than the Va'ad's budget, Chuck quietly provided the additional amount. He donated the silver rimonim for our middle Torah to the synagogue that gave him a spiritual home.

Chuck completed his conversion journey with Rabbi Litman and chose the name Baruch, which means blessing. His ashes were buried in the communal grave in our section of Hills of Eternity Cemetery.

## Condolences

We extend our condolences to our members who have suffered recent losses:

**Nancy Meyer and Daniel Meyer-O'Keefe**, on the death of Marilyn O'Keefe.

**Barbara Cymrot, Dafna Wu and Ruby Cymrot-Wu**, on the death of Isa Cymrot-Wu.

## Rabbi News

Last month, CSZ member Dr. Eileen Levy invited Rabbi Litman to speak to Eileen's Jewish Studies class at San Francisco State University. Rabbi Litman also spoke on a panel about being Jewish and queer at Q-Spirit. CSZ Member Johanna Singer was also on the panel.

Last month, the Chief Sephardi Rabbi of Israel, Eliyahu Bakshi-Doron, in an interview in *The Jerusalem Report*, specifically cited CSZ's own spiritual leader as the reason Reform rabbis are "clowns." "Does anyone think we can recognize her as a rabbi?" he asked rhetorically. "We'd make a joke out of the Torah!" Rabbi Litman's primary crime, among others, appears to be advocating and performing same-sex weddings.

Upcoming sermon topics:

January 16: "Martin Luther King, Racism, and American Jews."

January 30: "Tu b'Shevat and Torah: Etz Chaim Hi."

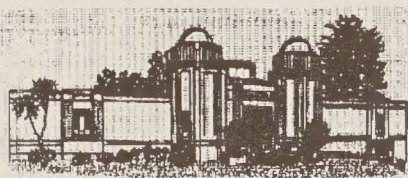
## Yizkor Elohim

**Maxine Shear**  
11/5/26 – 11/12/97

**Charles Norton**  
10/21/35 – 11/16/97

**Marilyn O'Keefe**  
8/6/53 – 12/4/97

**Isa Cymrot-Wu**  
7/20/94 – 12/9/97



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## Shabbat Morning Adult Education

You are welcome to join the Shabbat morning Torah study led by Rabbi Litman. The class meets for an hour beginning at 9:30 am at Congregation Emanu-El, except on the second Shabbat of the month when it meets at St. Matthew's Church the hour prior to services, beginning at 9 am.

After Torah study at Congregation Emanu-El, please join Rabbi Litman for "Learn What Our Children Learn," a class which explores the Kadimah curriculum at an adult level. Subjects include topics in Jewish identity, multiculturalism, ethical values and biographical history. The class runs about an hour. See the calendar for specific dates.

## Prayer for the Redwoods

CSZ will join with members of the San Francisco faith community to pray to save the headwaters forest on Thursday, January 15 at noon in Union Square. The 60,000 acre Headwaters Forest is the last fragment of the redwood ecosystem that once covered two million acres of North America's Pacific Coast. It is in danger of being clear cut, beginning in February. The Interfaith Task Force to Save the Ancient Redwoods has been working hard during the last several months to send a clear message to both state and national government officials about its commitment to preserve the forest and the planet. CSZ members have been involved with the work of this dedicated group and we as a community of politically conscious Jews need to show our continued support for the preservation of this precious natural wonder by coming together to pray on January 15.

## Members' Yahrzeits

9	Jerry Davis
18	Keith Fenton
20	George Ash
26	Cheryl Orvis



## Children's Education Board

Minutes of December 1, 1997.

B'nai Mitzvah—Rabbi Litman and David Shneer met with b'nai mitzvah parents on December 14 to explain the program and expectations of the students and parents. A timeline of milestones will be provided for each b'nai mitzvah student.

A sub-group including Rabbi Litman, David Shneer, Phyllis Mintzer, Stacey Shuster and Rena Frantz was formed to address educational goals and needs and how best we might achieve those goals. We may recommend the addition of mid-week class(es) and/or other educational resources. Liz Shaffer will report back on whether or not we can use funds from children-related restricted funds.

CEB Makeup—We agreed to a term of two years, with the possibility of two additional years, enabling a smooth transition and continuity. Howard

Herman agreed to draft an appropriate bylaw.

Parent's Council—We discussed mobilizing parents and non-parents to provide extra-curricular activities, particularly for the younger children. Adding more music and dance, for instance, may create a more engaging experience and help Kadimah to become more of a family experience. We also felt it was important to reinstitute the "parent of the week" to help out as needed in classrooms.

Saturday vs. Sunday—See separate article.

Budget—Next year's budget will need to be discussed soon.

Next Meeting: Monday, January 5, 7 pm, Ruth's home, 1247 Seventh Ave., between Lincoln and Irving. David will report on his vision for our children's education and recommendations regarding b'nai mitzvah needs.

## Hello, Goodbye

*Continued from page 2*

a recognized and accepted congregation within the context of Reform Judaism. So while I, disaffected and alienated, sat on the sidelines, something extraordinary was happening. And now, here we are. Commitment ceremonies. Bar/Bat Mitzvahs. All sorts of lifecycle events. Our second rabbi (third actually, but that's another story). And, most surprising and significant—kids. And after all, what community is whole without a new generation to whom to pass the torch?

I haven't spoken publicly in CSZ in over 15 years. I've never spoken in public at Danvers Street. So in a way, as we prepare to move to our new home, this is my "hello, goodbye." But it's also something else. It's an acknowledgment of all the people who came after me, who did their time in the sweatshop of Jewish intensity by serving this congregation, who assumed increasing responsibilities as the membership expanded, and who showed incredible generosity of time and labor. I want to say that you made it possible for me to have a home to come back to when I was ready. And for that I'll always be grateful.

Even on those rare occasions when I might be thinking "God, did they blow that one."

## Kadimah

*Continued from page 5*

a Shabbat experience they might not otherwise have.

- Available pool of teachers is probably larger, as other religious schools are held on Sunday.
- Gives the synagogue a sense of vitality and activity on Shabbat.
- Is historically in line with Jewish tradition. Sunday schools were a classical Reform innovation.

## Invitation to Members

As you probably have noticed, over the past few months we have published articles by our members on a range of topics. For example, Greta Miskatel and Ellie Cohen shared with us their experience of Yom Kippur on Corfu, Tory Weiser has brought us into her conversion process, and this month, Sarah Comerchero shares her thoughts on leaving Danvers Street.

We invite all members to submit articles of a personal nature—and are especially interested in pieces that provide a voice rarely heard, such as the perspective of our Mizrahi or Sephardi members. Each issue's deadline is the first Monday of the month, and we need your article in electronic form. You can either e-mail it to Robin Leonard at robinl@nolo.com, or send it on disk to CSZ, 290 Dolores Street, San Francisco, CA 94103, Attn: Forward. The *Forward* staff reserves the right to reject or edit any article.

*Get involved!  
Volunteer for a committee*



*Thanks to member support,  
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\$4,000 to Mishkan Dolores.  
Thank you!*



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## Rabbi

*Continued from page 1*

"parnassa." But "work" in the Shabbat sense is called "malacha," not the same thing at all. Malacha has nothing to do with financial income; rather, it is the categorization of human activity into the mundane and the sacred. Sacred human endeavor is appropriate to Shabbat; mundane activity is appropriate to the days of the week. So let's be clear. Davening, tefilah, teaching, praying, reading Torah—these are not malacha.

At the same time, malacha is something altogether different from wage earning endeavors. Malacha is about the non-sacred, about distraction and toil. So, while going shopping is not normally considered "work" in American terms, it is malacha. Shabbat, on the other hand, is reserved for the holy: walks in nature; visits with family and friends; the eating (and appreciating!) of special food, such as challah—bread baked with eggs, a rarity in more frugal times; sex with one's lover; communal or solitary prayer; and most of all, study.

Chopping wood, lighting fires, making beds, saddling and loading the donkey, that's all obviously malacha. But in modern society, sometimes it's hard to decide what is malacha and what isn't. Is driving malacha? Pushing the call button for an elevator? Tearing toilet paper from the roll? Orthodoxy has created a frozen and rigid definition of malacha in response to the perceived threat of mo-

derenity. But how do we, as Reform Jews, make these choices? Is driving toil? Not the technical Orthodox definition of the spark plug as fire, but is driving itself mundane? Conservative Judaism suggests that driving is acceptable on Shabbat as a means to an end, that is, one may drive to a spiritual activity such as prayer or study. Conservative Judaism views driving much as it does brushing one's teeth—neither holy nor prohibited malacha and thus allowed on Shabbat in limited quantity.

These are profound questions for us as individuals and as a spiritual community. How do we understand sacred and mundane activities? How does our understanding connect to Jewish tradition and contemporary Jewish thought? How, as a community, might we help our members to find the best Shabbat path for them? A good start might be in following Rabbi Yoffie's program and reading the wisdom of Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel.



## Super Sunday

Super Sunday, the Jewish Community Federation's annual campaign telethon, is scheduled for February 1, and CSZ's participation will be coordinated by Geoff Benjamin, a new staff member of the Federation. If you'd like to volunteer, please call Geoff at 512-6262.

The Federation was the first to offer benefits to the partners of gay and lesbian staff. Last year, the Federation convened a special taskforce chaired by CSZ member Al Baum to look at ways in which the Federation could support gay and lesbian concerns. One of the first tangible results was a \$340,000 low-interest loan to CSZ for the Mishkan Dolores campaign.

Locally, the Federation supports many agencies that provide services to our members, including the Bureau of Jewish Education, Jewish Family and Children's Services and Jewish Vocational Services. Abroad, the Federation has been a leader in the movement to direct funds to programs and agencies supporting pluralism and progressive religious policies in Israel.

Your support of this year's annual campaign will be especially meaningful. An increase in the number of donors from CSZ will demonstrate that we recognize our responsibility to the Jewish community, which is helping us to be stronger. The first \$35 of your annual donation provides you with a subscription to the *Northern California Jewish Bulletin*.

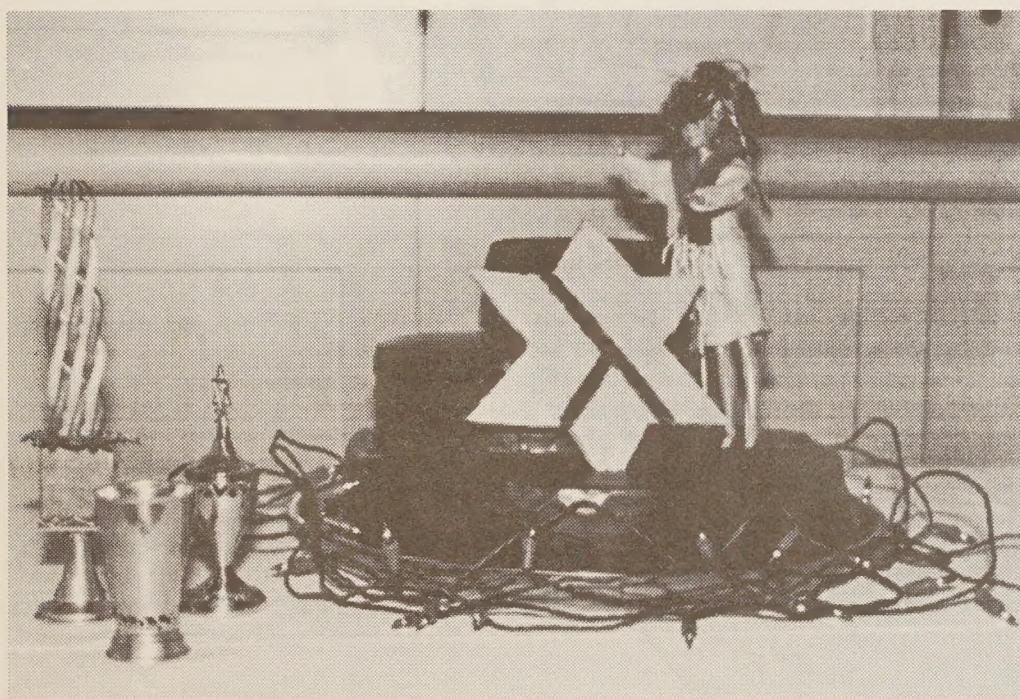
## HIV Support Group

CSZ has ongoing support services for members living with HIV/AIDS and their families and partners on the *second* Saturday of every month (please note the change), in addition to quarterly Shabbat dinners at the homes of members. Mark your calendars:

Saturday, January 10 at 3 pm, Support Group led by Rabbi Litman and Robert Tat at the home of a member.

Friday, January 30 at 6 pm, Shabbat dinner, location TBA.

Please call the office for location information. If you have any questions or would like to put your name on our confidential mailing list, please let us know. Join us.



Party celebrating the installation of Rabbi Jane Rachel Litman. Photo by Michael Bettinger.



## Classifieds

**ALL THINGS MACINTOSH:** Professionalize/computerize your business. Get online now. Quicken • Word • Excel • Hard disk tune-up. Roslyn Fuerman 510/526-1209.

**KAUAI TROPICAL GARDEN RETREAT:** Enchanting setting, perfect for nurturing, healing, romancing. Royal Drive Cottages. Bob Levine/Sandy Meyers Ph/fax, 808/822-2321.

**CLUTTER BUSTERS:** A Professional Organizer. Are schmutzim & chachkes confounding your life? Afraid to open your closet? Packing for a move? Reorganizing after a death? I help you minimize, then reorganize your home, office, garage. References provided. Call 487-8959.

**LOOKING FOR A ROOM TO RENT:** Looking for a lesbian or lesbian-friendly household to call "home" in Glen Park, Noe Valley, Castro or Duboce Triangle. I am 30 years old; I have no pets, but love animals. I can take or leave meat in the house, but not cigarettes. Move-in date is flexible, between now and early January. If you are looking for an easygoing roommate who has a sense of humor and an appreciation for life; believes in and practices open communication; is independent and busy, yet sociable and friendly and is respectful of your space (both the literal and figurative kind), please give Elisa a call at (415) 422-0050. If I am not home, please leave a message on my voicemail with the best time to reach you. Or, you can email me at ElisaJF@aol.com. Call me, we'll talk.

## Naches

To **Julie Stahl** and **Ruth Goldstein**, on the birth of their daughter, **Dorothy Goldstein-Stahl**.

To **Bill Denebeim** and **Mark Vogel**, on the birth and naming of their daughter, **Allton Rachel Vogel-Denebeim**.

To **Johanna** and **Bon Singer**, on the birth of their son, **Michael Emet Zuri Singer**.

To **Phyllis** and **George Mintzer**, on the births of three great-grandchildren, **Mansour** and **Ayah Rashid**, born to their grandchildren **Kofi** and **Jamillah Rashid**, and **Shana Rose Leonard**, born to their grandchildren **Brendan** and **Karen Leonard**.

To **Ed Tanovitz**, on the marriage of his daughter **Eden Tanovitz** to **Giavanni Rodriguez**.

To **Amy Clark**, on passing the MSAT.

To **Sara Felder**, on being awarded grants by the San Francisco Arts Commission Cultural Equity Program and the National Performance Network to create a new queer Yiddish vaudeville show.

## Oneg Sponsors

These generous people sponsored an Oneg in December:

12/19 **Mark Vogel** and **Bill Denebeim**, in honor of the naming of their daughter, **Allton Rachel Vogel-Denebeim**.

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

## Birthdays

1	Desmond Bernstein	17	Gabriel Meyer Edlin
1	Howard Herman	18	Sarah Adler
3	Sophia Wilson	19	Mike Rankin
4	Sarah Goodman	20	Ruby Cymrot-Wu
5	Jonathan Bell	21	Johanna Singer
6	Nathan Robinson	22	Henri Nielson
7	Shoshana Eisenman Moed	22	Laureen Ok Sun Kim
7	Leah Finch	22	Beth Richman
9	Max Rossoff-Nichols	23	Greta Miskatel
11	Ellen Giersen	24	Jonathan Williamson
11	Dvora Honigstein	25	Neil Hart
12	Tiela Chalmers	25	Susan Jacobson
12	Florence Nacamulli	25	Marcy Whitebook
13	Alapai Michels	27	Benjamin Bank
14	Michael Schwartz	27	Elliot Klein
14	Louisa Stone	28	Alexandra Blachman-Gentile
14	Andrew Wariner	30	Ruth Schoenbach
15	Jacqueline Mauro	31	Nora Downs
16	Deena Lahn		

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

## CONGREGATION SHA'AR ZAHAV

# GIFT SHOP

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## Contributions

### *AIDS Fund*

Rachel Wahba and Judy Dlugacz, in memory of Marilyn O'Keeffe.  
Arnie Jackson, in memory of Richard D. Wright.  
Robert Cohen, in memory of Monty Allport.

### *Adult Education Fund*

Allan Giannini, in honor of Brian Besser.

### *Bikkur Cholim Fund*

Gordon Osser, in memory of Maxine Shear.  
Paul Nemrow and Jeff Forman, in memory of Maxine Shear.  
Mark Bowers, in memory of Harry and Marjorie Bowers.

### *Children's Education Fund*

Eileen Levy, in honor of Jeanette Nichols' entrance into the Covenant.

### *General Fund*

Brian Jersky, in memory of Leiba Skudowitz.  
Kenny Altman, in memory of Minnie Kirschenbaum.  
Jeff Sherman, in memory of Ida Rosenthal and Joseph Rosenthal.  
Carolyn Pines, in memory of Harriet Strauber Pines.  
Allan Berenstein, in memory of Elizabeth Kurtzman Waxman.  
Mark Yablonovich.  
Lezlie Frishman and Ellen Goldstein, in honor of and with deep admiration for Jhos, Bon and Michael Singer.  
Dorothea and Henry Norton, in memory of Charles Norton.  
Esther Rubin, with thanks for services.  
Perry Paker, in memory of Meyer Paker.  
Sarah Comerchero, in memory of Isaac Judah Comerchero.  
Dana Vinicoff.  
Lezlie Frishman, in honor of Ellen Goldstein and how very much she matters ... everywhere.  
Jerry Rosenstein.  
Mark McCormick.  
Lezlie Frishman, in honor of Ellen Goldstein for helping her through the birth.

### *High Holiday Contributions*

Steve Proffitt, in honor of Alan Kaufman.  
Elizabeth Katz.  
Joyce Jacobson.  
James Carlson.  
Robert Cohen.  
Joshua Kosman.  
Carolyn Pines & Judy Schwartz.  
Irene Ogus.  
Arthur Slepian and Gerry Llamado.  
Jeff Rubin.  
Paula DeFelice.  
Rebecca Stein.  
Rachel Schochet, in memory of Sheldon Friedman.  
Michael Rabow.

### *Inclusive Liturgy Fund*

Batya Kalis and Miriam Trentman, in memory of Maxine Shear.  
Batya Kalis and Miriam Trentman, in honor of Martha Rosett's new job.

### *Mishkan Dolores Fund*

Steve Wiesner.  
James Carlson.  
Andrew Wariner.  
Bea Lieberman.  
Elizabeth Katz, in honor of Rabbi Litman.  
Arnie Jackson, in memory of Louis Jackson.  
Patricia Bigglestone, in observance of Clint Bigglestone's birthday.  
Allan Berenstein, in memory of Chuck Norton.  
Vera and Joseph Weiss, in memory of Henrietta Weiss.  
Allan Berenstein, in memory of Maxine Shear.  
Paul Cohen and Bob Gutterman, in memory of Marilyn O'Keeffe.  
Jonathan Zimman.

### *Rabbi's Discretionary Fund*

Alan Ferrara, in honor of Tory Weiser on her new spiritual journey.  
Lisa Schiffman, with appreciation for Rabbi Litman.  
Irene Mariani, in memory of Chuck Norton.  
Allan Gold, in memory of Erma Newman.

Alan Ferrara, in honor of Trudi Hauptman for all her hard work on Rabbi Litman's installation.  
Rick Crane, in honor of the anniversary of Randy Heilbrunn and Lou Boudreau and in honor of Randy's generosity of spirit.  
Allan Gold and Alan Ferrara, in memory of Milton Kuluk.  
Batya Kalis and Miriam Trentman, to celebrate the naming of Miriam Zoe Heath Katz.  
Allan Berenstein, in memory of Harry Berenstein.

### *Rabbi's Study Fund of the Mishkan Dolores Campaign*

Steve Weiner.  
Walter Leiss.  
Stephanie Hannaford.  
Rabbi Shefa Gold.  
Allan Gold and Alan Ferrara.  
David Gellman.  
David Stein and Alex Ingersoll.  
Ellen Lewin and Liz Goodman.  
Nitza and Ofer Agam.  
Prudence Carter.  
Judith Hedgpeth.  
Fran and Rob Chalin.  
Ann Brener.  
Larry Jablon and Vicki Rachner.  
Phil Charney.  
Rabbi Eric Weiss and Dan Alpert.  
Mimi Reisbaum.  
David Lebell.  
Mike Zimmerman.  
Debra Orenstein.  
Joe Hample.  
Batya Kalis and Miriam Trentman.  
Arthur Slepian and Gerry Llamado.  
Sharyn Saslafsky.  
Paul Cohen and Bob Gutterman.  
Jonathan Funk and John Arnold.  
Allan Berenstein.  
Fran Frohlich.  
Ben Bank and Brian Jersky.  
Rosyland and Bob Bauer.  
Lenore Naxon and Bill Blade, mazeltov to Rabbi Litman and in honor of Julie Moed.  
Michael Sonduck.  
Jean and Norm Katz.  
Vaughan Rachel and Degania Golove.  
Cathy Smith and Bob Parsons, for their donation to the Rabbi's Installation Celebration.  
Louis Hirschmann, for his generous donation to help underwrite the Rabbi's Installation Celebration.



Eat well and perform a mitzvah!

## Out of Our Kitchen Closets: San Francisco Gay Jewish Cooking

CSZ's critically acclaimed cookbook is available from the CSZ office or gift shop.

To order by mail, send \$12.95 per book (plus 8.5% sales tax in California) and \$3.50 shipping for the first book and \$1 each additional copy to:

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—San Francisco Chronicle

CSZ donates \$3.00 from the sale of each book to the Project Open Hand Food Bank, which provides nonperishable items to people with AIDS. To date, we have given in excess of \$17,000

## Synagogue Information

### Rabbi Jane Litman

#### Officers:

*President*, Diana Buchbinder  
(337-6319 or  
threebuchs@sprynet.com)  
*First Vice President*, David Gellman  
*Second Vice President*, Susan  
Tubbesing  
*Treasurer*, Arthur Slepian  
*Recorder*, Mark Bowers

### Va'ad (Board) Members:

Michael Chertok  
Ellie Cohen  
Jeff Forman  
Lyssa Friedman  
Sara Haber  
Joe Hample  
Lisa Katz  
Eileen Levy  
Julie Moed

### CSZ Staff:

*Director of Education*, David Shneer  
*Administrator*, Lea Salem  
*Kadimah Head Teacher*, Phyllis Mintzer  
*Administrative Assistant*, Amy Clark  
*Program Coordinator*, Renée Bauer

### Committee Chairs:

*Adult Education*, Sue Bojdak  
*Archives*, open  
*ARZA contact*, Ron Lezell  
*Baby Chavurah*, Lisa Katz  
*Bequests and Donations*, Richard  
Inlander  
*Bikkur Cholim*, David Shaber  
*Bisexual Chavurah*, Jim Frazin  
*Book Group*, Mark Mackler  
*Brotherhood*, Stephan Howard  
*Building*, Mark Klaiman  
*Bylaws*, Edward Pollock  
*Cemetery*, Richard Inlander  
*Children's Education Board*, Ruth  
Rainero  
*Cookbook Project*, Robin Leonard  
*Dues Liaison*, Sara Haber  
*East Bay Services*, Hilary Zaid  
*Endowment Fund*, Merry Luskin

*Environmental Action*, Barak Gale and  
Brian Besser

*Finance*, Arthur Slepian

*Fine Arts*, Alice Prussin

*Gift Shop*, Jeff Rubin

*La'atid*, Geoff Benjamin

*Leadership Development*, Irene Ogus  
and Paul Cohen

*Library*, open

*Long-Range Planning*, Allan Gold

*Membership*, Ami Zusman

*Mishkan Dolores Campaign*, Ellie  
Cohen and Lisa Katz

*Newsletter*, Robin Leonard

*Oneg*, open

*Past Presidents Council*, Merry Luskin

*Personnel*, Susan Tubbesing

*Public Relations*, Sharyn Saslfsky

*Rabbi Liaison*, Allan Gold

*Ritual*, Lyssa Friedman

*Social Action*, Eloise Magenheimer

*Toddler/Pre-school Chavurah*, Ilana  
Bernstein

*UAHC National Liaison*, Mike Rankin

*UAHC Regional Liaison*, Daniel Chesir

*WCGLJO Liaison*, Neil Grungras

*Women's Chavurah*, open

*Members wishing to contact any Va'ad member or committee chair are invited to obtain his or her number from the synagogue office.*

**Bikkur Cholim:** If you or a friend who is a member of Sha'ar Zahav is ill in the hospital or at home, and would like to have a member of the Bikkur Cholim Committee call or visit, please notify the synagogue office.

**Member of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and of the World Congress**

of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations.

**Services** are held every Friday evening beginning at 8:15 pm (except as noted), with an Oneg Shabbat following services. Services are generally held on the second Saturday of each month at 10 am — check calendar for each month.

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**1** Thursday, January 1  
3 Tevet

**2** Friday, January 2  
4 Tevet  
• 4:44 pm, Candle lighting  
• 7 pm, Early Kabbalat Shabbat, led by Tiela Chalmers  
• 8:15 pm, Shabbat Va-Yigash, led by Tiela Chalmers and Debby Geiber

**3** Saturday, January 3  
5 Tevet

- Kadimah winter break
- Torah study canceled

**4** Sunday, January 4  
6 Tevet

**5** Monday, January 5  
7 Tevet

- 6 pm, Healing service at Sherith Israel
- 7 pm, Children's Education Board

**6** Tuesday, January 6  
8 Tevet

**7** Wednesday, January 7  
9 Tevet

- 7 pm, Architecture and Design
- 7 pm, Advanced Prayerbook Hebrew class
- 7 pm, Newsletter editing

**8** Thursday, January 8  
10 Tevet

- 8 pm, Dues Committee

**9** Friday, January 9  
11 Tevet

- 4:51 pm, Candle lighting
- 7:15 pm, Niggun service
- 8:15 pm, Shabbat Va-Yechi, led by Danny Givertz and Lyssa Friedman

**10** Saturday, January 10  
12 Tevet

- 9 am, Torah study at St. Matthew's
- 10 am, Shabbat service, led by Frank Yellin and Ruby Cymrot-Wu
- 3 pm, HIV Support Group

**11** Sunday, January 11  
13 Tevet

**12** Monday, January 12  
14 Tevet

- 6:30 pm, Va'ad meeting, 345 Church St.
- 7 pm, Newsletter layout

**13** Tuesday, January 13  
15 Tevet

- 7 pm, Children's Education Board Sat./Sun. Forum, 61 Eagle St.

**14** Wednesday, January 14  
16 Tevet

**15** Thursday, January 15  
17 Tevet

- 12 noon, Prayer for the Redwoods, Union Square
- 6:30 pm, Toddler Program Committee, 61 Eagle St.
- 7 pm, Bikkur Cholim

**16** Friday, January 16  
18 Tevet

- 4:58 pm, Candle lighting
- 8:15 pm, Shabbat Shemot, led by Kirsten Gustavsen and Rabbi Litman
- 8:15 pm, East Bay service, 3433 Brunell Dr., Oakland

**17** Saturday, January 17  
19 Tevet

- No Kadimah
- 9:30 am, Torah Study at Congregation Emanu-El

**18** Sunday, January 18  
20 Tevet

- 11 am, Ron Wilmot's unveiling, Hills of Eternity

**19** Monday, January 19  
21 Tevet

- 7 pm, Membership Committee

**20** Tuesday, January 20  
22 Tevet

**21** Wednesday, January 21  
23 Tevet

- 7 pm, Advanced Prayerbook Hebrew class

**22** Thursday, January 22  
24 Tevet

- 7 pm, Children's Education Board Sat./Sun. Forum, 644 Fairmount St., Oakland
- 7 pm, Newsletter distribution

**23** Friday, January 23  
25 Tevet

- 5:05 pm, Candle lighting
- 6:45 pm, Tot Shabbat, led by Rabbi Litman and Patricia Lin, oneg to follow
- 8:15 pm, Shabbat Va-Era, led by Brian Besser and Kathy Simon

**24** Saturday, January 24  
26 Tevet

- 9:30 am, Kadimah
- 9:30 am, Torah Study at Congregation Emanu-El
- 10 am, Children's Education Board, Sat./Sun. Forum, at Congregation Emanu-El

**25** Sunday, January 25  
27 Tevet

**26** Monday, January 26  
28 Tevet

**27** Tuesday, January 27  
29 Tevet

**28** Wednesday, January 28  
1 Shevat

**29** Thursday, January 29  
2 Shevat

- 6:30 pm, Ritual Committee
- 7:30 pm, Service Leaders' Initiative, Harvey Milk School, 4235 19th St.

**30** Friday, January 30  
3 Shevat

- 5:13 pm, Candle lighting
- 6 pm, HIV Support Group dinner
- 8:15 pm, Shabbat Bo, led by Rabbi Litman and Steve Weitz

**31** Saturday, January 31  
4 Shevat

- 9:30 am, Kadimah
- 9:30 am, Torah Study, Congregation Emanu-El

**Note:** Gray areas indicate religious services.

## FEBRUARY FORWARD DEADLINES

### FOR ADVERTISING MONDAY, JANUARY 5

To place a display ad, call Roslyn Fuerman (510/526-1209 or froslyn@earthlink.net). To place a classified ad, call the office.

### FOR ARTICLES MONDAY, JANUARY 5

Please submit articles both on 3½-inch disk and hard copy on paper *double spaced*. Write "Attn. Gaily Forward" on top and mail to CSZ. No deadline extensions without advance permission of Robin Leonard at 841-0262 or robinl@nolo.com.

### East Bay Services

- 1/16 3433 Brunell Dr., Oakland
- 2/20 Location TBA; call Hilary Zaid at 510/654-8907



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## Congregation Sha'ar Zahav — Israel Trip Questionnaire

The third CSZ trip to Israel is currently being planned for Spring 1999, contingent on interest. Thank you in advance for filling out this questionnaire; by doing so you will greatly assist the planners. Past trips have lasted just under two weeks and have included several days in Jerusalem, time in the Galilee on a kibbutz, day trips to Masada, S'fat, Haifa and elsewhere, meetings with cultural and political leaders, and other highlights. In past years, the trip has included accommodations in four-star hotels, all breakfasts and a few dinners

and all ground transportation and airfare, and has cost around \$2,500. (Some people have saved money by making their own flight arrangements.)

To mail back, please fold into thirds with the return address showing.

Questions? Call Susan Lubeck (510/654-1072) or send an e-mail to [slubeck@support-center.org](mailto:slubeck@support-center.org).

1. Have you ever been to Israel? ☐ Y ☐ N  
If Yes, were you part of the ☐ CSZ 1993 trip or the ☐ CSZ 1996 trip?
2. Which of the following best describes your level of interest in a CSZ Israel trip?
- ☐ (A) I am planning to join the trip and would be ready to make a deposit now.
- ☐ (B) I am interested in hearing more.  
*[Please indicate on what your decision would likely hinge.]*
- ☐ Itinerary *[Please elaborate—what would you like to see or experience?]*

☐ Whether the dates work for me  
*[Please elaborate if possible.]*

☐ Cost of the trip  
*[Please be specific if you have particular limits in mind.]*

☐ Would you be interested in more modest accommodations to reduce cost? ☐ Y ☐ N

☐ Other *[Please elaborate if possible.]*

☐ (C) I am not interested in this trip.  
*[Your reason(s) would be helpful.]*

3. If the trip had a theme, such as peace prospects or cooperation among progressive and orthodox Jews, would this increase the trip's appeal? ☐ Y ☐ N  
If Yes, what appeals to you?

4. If you selected (A) or (B) in question 2, please rank the following activities for a CSZ Israel trip in the order in which they appeal to you most, using 1 to indicate highest interest:
- ☐ Visiting the principal historical and religious sites
- ☐ Seeing/experiencing the country as a whole
- ☐ Text study linked to historical and religious sites
- ☐ Meeting with political and cultural groups and leaders
- ☐ Hiking and outdoor activities
- ☐ Other(s). Please state:

5. Are you interested in helping plan the trip? ☐ Y ☐ N

OPTIONAL, unless you want more information or want to join the planning committee:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (home)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (work)

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Fax

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E-mail



place  
stamp  
here

Israel Trip Questionnaire  
Congregation Sha'ar Zahav  
290 Dolores Street  
San Francisco, CA 94103

Attn: Susan Lubeck





איחוד  
ליהדות  
מתקדמת  
באמריקה

UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS  
*Northern California Council*

*Cordially invites you to*

# "Shabbat: Sustaining the Spirit"

*A Spirituality Retreat*

**February 6-8, 1998**

UAHC Camp Newman  
4088 Porter Creek Road  
Santa Rosa, California

**The Faculty**



**Rabbi Alan Berg**

**Rabbi Aliza Berk**

**Rabbi Michael Berk**

**Rabbi Brad Bloom**

**Nancy Bott**

**Rabbi Jason Gwasdoff**

**Rabbi Stephen Pearce**

**Cantor Ellen Schwab**

**Rabbi Peretz Wolf-Pruzan**

Camp Newman, UAHC's newest camp in Santa Rosa, California, will provide us with a peaceful and beautiful setting for an extraordinary weekend of prayer, meditation, sociability and dialogue. Our focus for the weekend will be *Personal Visions of Jewish Spirituality*.

Cost for the entire weekend will be \$150 per person, and includes meals (Friday dinner through Sunday lunch) and accommodations. All accommodations are double occupancy only.

Complete this registration form and send it with your check for \$150 per person, payable to the Union of American Hebrew Congregations (or UAHC) to UAHC, Attn: Linda Feldman, 703 Market St. Suite 1300, San Francisco, CA 94103. We are unable to accept payment by credit card. Registration deadline: **January 20, 1998**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime ☎: \_\_\_\_\_ Evening ☎: \_\_\_\_\_

☞ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

All meals will be kosher-style. Please indicate if you have special dietary restrictions.

☐ No beef, but chicken & fish is okay

☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ No dairy products

☐ Vegetables only

*This program is partially underwritten  
by the Fund for Reform Judaism*

information: (415) 392-7080x20 or uahcsf@aol.com



